

REMARKS

This Amendment After final is prepared in response to the final Office action mailed on 2 April 2008 (Paper No. 20080225).

Claims 3 and 9 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter, and claims 1, 4, 7 and 10 have been amended. Thus, claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 10-12 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-2 and 7-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 for the reasons stated on pages 2-3 of the final Office Action. In addition, the Examiner has indicated that claims 3-6 and 9-12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form so as to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this Amendment, for the sake of expediency, claims 3 and 9 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter and their recited limitations respectively added to claims 1 and 7.

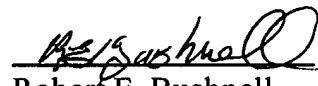
Accordingly, all of the claims now present in the application are patentable over the prior art and should now be in a condition suitable for allowance.

Additional references were cited by the Examiner but not utilized in the rejections and accordingly, no comment on these references is necessary.

No other issues remaining, reconsideration and favorable action on all of the claims now present in the application is respectfully requested. Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney.

No fee is incurred by this Amendment After Final.

Respectfully submitted,


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